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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
INFORMATION BRANCH
30 Van Ness Avenue
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In cooperation with the
Federal-State Market News Service

WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ending October 15, 1948)

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 12--- Grapes (Thompson Seedless, Ribiers, Muscats, Tokays) are still holding the top spot as a Best Buy in fruits.

Cranberries are a Fair Buy at slightly lower prices, along with miscellaneous melons (Persian, Honeydew, Cranshaw, Casaba), strawberries and small oranges.

Lemons are slightly lower than last week but are still in the high-priced bracket. Large oranges and grapefruit are still on the expensive side, too, as are pears.

The Best Buy line-up on vegetables includes carrots, cauliflower (slightly lower), potatoes, lettuce, tomatoes, onions, and peppers.

Sweetpotatoes are a Fair Buy this week, along with cabbage, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, and squash.

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There's very little change from last week in the San Francisco wholesale meat market. Supplies are plentiful -- with the possible exception of veal, which is made up mostly of Utility and Commercial grades. Supplies of beef are comprised largely of Commercial and Good steer and heifer beef, and Canner and Utility grades of cow beef. Demand is only fair, especially for liberal supplies of lamb and pork. Prices are running 1.00 to 2.00 lower on steer, heifer, and cow beef, and around 5.00 to 6.00 lower on fresh pork cuts. Other classes are about unchanged in price.

In the San Francisco wholesale market, top grades of butter are in rather slow demand. Grade A(92 Score) has gained 1-cent, though, to a quotation of 69 cents per pound -- the same as for Grade AA(93 Score). Grade B(90 Score) is 3 cents higher at 67 cents per pound. Supplies are more than ample for needs.

Supplies of top-grade eggs are about ample for the continued fairly good demand. Grade "A" Mediums are 1-cent higher at 63 to $63\frac{1}{2}$ cents per dozen, while Grade "A" Smalls are up 3 cents at 48 to $48\frac{1}{2}$ cents per dozen. Grade "A" Large eggs are unchanged at 67 to $67\frac{1}{2}$ cents per dozen, as are Grade "B" Large at 49 to $49\frac{1}{2}$ cents.

In the poultry market, offerings are in excess of demand, with the result that prices have continued their downward trend. All young chickens are lower priced. Broilers are 2 to 3 cents per pound lower on both live and dressed weights; small colored fryers are 1-cent lower; large colored fryers and colored roasters are down 2 cents. Colored hens are 3 cents lower on live weights, and 2 cents lower on dressed weights. Dressed young tom turkeys are also 2 cents per pound lower than last week.

